



Serial No. 09/714,093

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A hollow substantially cylindrical radially expandable stent having proximal and distal open ends and a longitudinal axis extending therebetween, said stent for deployment within a human body vessel, said stent comprising:

- a. a plurality of hoops comprising a plurality of interconnected struts forming a substantially diamond shape configuration, said stent having a proximal end hoop and a distal end hoop, wherein said distal end hoop and said proximal end hoop are configured to have greater radial and longitudinal strength than the hoops therebetween;
- b. a plurality of sinusoidal rings connecting adjacent hoops to one another, said sinusoidal rings being formed from a plurality of alternating struts, a junction of the alternating struts of said sinusoidal rings and a junction of interconnected struts of said plurality of hoops being a common junction; and
- c. proximal and distal attachment devices for securing a graft member to the substantially cylindrical radially expandable stent, the proximal attachment device being positioned distal of the proximal open end of the stent such that the proximal open end of the stent is exposed to the body vessel.

Claim 2. cancelled.

Claim 3 (original): The stent according to claim 1 wherein said stent is a self-expanding stent.

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Claim 4 (original): The stent according to claim 3 wherein said stent is made from a superelastic nickel titanium alloy.

Claim 5. (previously presented): The sent according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said distal and proximal end hoops is formed so as to have a larger diameter than a hoop adjacent thereto.

Claims 6-22 (cancelled)